



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
PHONE (808) 527-5749 • FAX (808) 527-5760 • INTERNET: <http://www.honolulu.gov>

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2006 KAPALAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Pro Tem Bernie Young called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. without a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Akamine, Ken Harding, Eric Purcell, Jesusa Ronne, Casey Sakai, Jamie Harvest-Silva, Tracy Sakai, and Bernie Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Irene Takizawa, and Shane Yaw.

GUESTS: Pat Lee (Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Keoki Miyamoto (Deputy Director, Department of Facilities Maintenance – Mayor’s Representative), Karl Rhoads (Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13 member), Earl Cachola, Senator Gordon Trimble and Kristi Sue-Ako (Senator Trimble’s Staff); Dennis Galolo (Councilmember Cachola’s staff); Capt. Rex Nohua (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD); Lt. Hite, Sgt. Somera, and Officer Willis (Honolulu Police Department – HPD); Sue Berg (Senator Chun Oakland’s staff), Representative Corinne Ching, Jake Manegdeg (Representative Abinsay’s staff), Lorraine Robinson (TJ Mahoney & Associates), Faye Chee (Senator Donna Mercado Kim’s staff); Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission office staff).

DEFERRAL OF AGENDA ITEMS: Chair Young announced that agenda items requiring votes have to be deferred until there is the required quorum of 10 members present out of the total of 19 seats.

ELECTION TO FILL VACANCIES THREE VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 1, TWO VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 2 AND THREE VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 3 – Chair Young deferred the item due to the absence of a voting quorum.

RESIDENTS’ CONCERNS – Chair Young asked for general concern issues from the community:

1. Karl Rhoads reported the following: a) there are stacks of tires, batteries, and other bulky items on Austin and Lopez Streets. b) there is a van parked by Kapalama Canal with a green tarp, and it seems that a homeless person is living there. c) Closure signs are needed on Kohou Street and Kapalama Canal.
2. Pat Lee introduced himself as independent consultant for Parsons Brinkerhoff. Lee would like the Board’s permission to solicit the public’s input for a locally preferred alternative mass transit system. Future meetings are planned for public input and Lee will keep the Board informed on these meetings. Lee also reported that engineers and planners will study all alternatives for an alternative mass transit system for Oahu including a study that would consider no alternative transit system. Included in the study will be the transit corridor, and the results will be presented to the City Council by the end of this year. For information please call 566-2299 or visit www.honolulutrnsit.org.
3. Member Eric Purcell reported loud music emanating from stereos that are being installed near his home. HPD representatives recommended that noise complaints be reported as soon as they occur by calling 911.

The Chair and the Board recognized and commended Karl Rhoads for his efforts in walking the neighborhood and taking the time to address the residents’ concerns.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:



HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Sgt. Somera reported the statistics for the month of March: 0 homicides, 0 sex offense, 1 robbery, 0 burglary, 36 theft, 2 UEMV's, 0 motor vehicle thefts, 10 assaults, 20 MVC, 1 drug/narcotics, 0 family offenses, 88 arguments, 2 DUI, and 0 graffiti.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member Purcell inquired where three fights that occurred in one night are reflected in the stats. Lt. Hite replied they may not be reflected in the March stats as the fights occurred in April.
2. Member Purcell inquired about the arrest of minors and what can be done to keep them detained. In response, Lt. Hite replied they are detained for a maximum of six hours until they are adjudicated. Minors may be sent to the Ko'olau facility.
3. In response to member Purcell's question regarding holding the parents responsible for crimes committed by minors, Lt. Hite replied it is difficult especially when parents are doing all they can. Some parents are single parents who have a hard time supervising their children, and they work hard to provide for them despite the children being disrespectful. Lt. Hite also mentioned that all HPD and the community can do is work within the system to address these issues.

The Chair thanked HPD for their reports.

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Captain Rex Nohua reported 5 structure fires, 1 rubbish, 2, vehicles 35 medical calls.

Fire Safety Tip: Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second major cause of death among older adults. If you are cooking and must leave the kitchen, even only for a few minutes, turn off the stove. Keep a fire extinguisher (with a minimum rating of 2A10BC) in or near your kitchen and learn how to use it. Inspect the extinguisher regularly to ensure that it has not expired.

The Chair thanked Capt. Nohua for his report.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS) – There was no representative present.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Keoki Miyamoto (Deputy Director, Department of Facilities Maintenance [DFM]) distributed the Mayor's report and was available for questions.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member Harding reported Rubbish along School Street sidewalk, by Kam IV Road, fronting Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT). Commercial establishments there have been placing their rubbish on the sidewalks, and thereby preventing people from using the sidewalk.
2. A mango tree is growing over property at School and Amelia Streets. Request to trim tree from Jake Manegdeg of Rep. Abinsay's Office tel. (586-6010).
3. A request for bulky item pick up of tires and batteries at 1209 Auld Lane.
4. A request for bulky item pick up of junk and rubbish along Kapalama Canal, Kohou Street side, between King Street and Dillingham Boulevard.

The Chair thanked Miyamoto for his presentation.

BOARD RECESS: Chair Young declared a recess at 7:45 p.m. for refreshments; Chair Young reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, FEBRUARY 16, MARCH 16, APRIL 20, MAY 18, JUNE 15, JULY 20, AUGUST 17, SEPTEMBER 21, OCTOBER 19, NOVEMBER 16 2005, JANUARY 18, 2006 and FEBRUARY 15, MARCH 15, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Chair Young deferred the item due to lack of quorum.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2005, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH 2006 TREASURER’S REPORTS – Chair Young deferred the item due to lack of quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

PRESENTATION:

AIRPORT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN – Brian Sakeguchi, Deputy Director of Airports reported the following:

This modernization plan is designed to meet diverse needs – from security to convenience to efficiency – and to do so with the aloha that our visitors and residents expect and deserve.

Short-term projects, within the next five years, include: upgrades to the passenger terminals, ticket counters, baggage screening operations, runways and airport aprons, airport infrastructure such as air-conditioning, restroom facilities, elevators, escalators, electrical systems, drains and sprinkler systems.

In addition, the plan incorporates improvements to comply with federal regulations on storm water systems, runway safety, perimeter security and crash fire safety, the release said.

Long-term improvement projects include: constructing additional gates, ramp space and passenger loading bridges, increasing holding room capacity, and expanding public parking facilities.

The proposed upgrades will be paid for entirely by airport fees and federal funds, and will not utilize any state general funds.

ELECTED OFFICIALS: Chair Young noted that elected officials are invited to participate based on the rule of three minutes per speaker (strictly enforced) and that a short written report is appreciated.

GOVERNOR’S REPRESENTATIVE – No representative was present at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER ROMY CACHOLA – Dennis Galolo distributed Councilmember Cachola’s monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. Councilmember Cachola has provided money totaling \$120,000 to restore lights at Fern Community Park. The lights were welded shut by the City Department of Parks (DPR) and recreation due to vandalism. The money provided will be used to relocate the vandalized equipment to a more secure indoor location.
2. Councilmember Cachola sent a memo to DPR requesting that the vacant full-time caretaker position for Kamehameha Field. There have been resident concerns regarding drinking, gambling, and fighting in the field. Residents have been holding security patrols, and they feel unless a full time groundskeeper is visible, the park will revert to being a haven for crime.
3. Kokea Street/Kokea Gardens: a) Request for Investigation and Service Report (RISR) was sent to look into complaints of homeless and graffiti. b) Mahalo to the City Department of Facilities and Maintenance (DFM) for cleaning up the bulky items in the Kapalama Canal area between Olomea and North King Street. The work was done on March 29, 2006, and a letter was sent to Senator Trimble in order to address this issue

long term. c) A RISR was sent to investigate complaints about the increase of homeless people and drug activity on Kokea and Kohou Street sidewalks. d) A RISR was also sent to investigate the large number of vehicles parked in the area without proper registration and safety checks.

4. DPR has determined that the grass sidewalk area of Kohou Street is not suitable for conversion into a park and recommends that other means be explored to control on-going problems in the area.
5. Mahalo to DFM for conducting street sweeping of Pua Lane between Vineyard boulevard and north King Street at the end of March. However due to heavy rains, the work has not been completed and work is scheduled to be continued in April or May pending available resources. DFM and HPD will also coordinate the removal of abandoned and derelict vehicles.
6. Councilmember Cachola is requesting a traffic study for a signal at the intersection of Gulick and Beckley Street.

Galolo was thanked for attending the meeting.

SENATOR GORDON TRIMBLE – Senator Trimble reported the following:

1. There are 17 days left in the legislative session.
2. There is a power structure in the Senate that has held up for some time and bills are being transmitted to the governor swiftly.
3. The Legislature has not decided what to do with the budget surplus, but the Senator highly recommends that it be used to fund the Employee Retirement System (ERS) that is currently under-funded and possibly facing a windfall in the future.
4. Binding arbitration takes money away from much needed repair and maintenance projects in schools.

The Chair thanked Senator Trimble for attending the meeting.

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM – Faye Chee distributed the Senator's report and was available for questions. Chee announced that the Senator has introduced a resolution to move the Oahu Correctional Facility to Halawa.

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND – Sue Berg represented Senator Oakland and distributed her report.

REPRESENTATIVE BEV HARBIN – No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE CORINNE CHING – Distributed her report and highlighted the following:

1. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has taken responsibility for the remnant property at Kuakini Street and Liliha Avenue. The area has been cleaned of abandoned vehicles and overgrown grass.
2. The representative is supporting a measure that would allow teachers to have debit cards for the purchase of school supplies. The debit cards would enable teachers to purchase supplies as needed.

The Chair thanked Representative Ching for her report.

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN FINNEGAN: No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE JUN ABINSAY – Jake Manegdeg highlighted cross over bills and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) as they relate to the representative district 29. Manegdeg noted only two bills were held or deferred in the Senate and CIP appropriations total over \$6 million for district 29.

ADJOURNMENT: With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Commission Office staff